

**Workforce Training and Education Coordinating Board
Executive Director's Report**

Meeting No. 222
September 26, 2018

1. I am pleased to announce that our co-managers of the Future of Work Task Force started September 17. Lew McMurran and Joe Wilcox have hit the ground running, and won't be able to stop or even slow down until the recommendations report is submitted to the Governor and legislature in late December 2019. Joe and Lew will also be the Workforce Board's point people on the work of the Task Force. They will have a discussion with you about the progress of the Task Force at the November meeting, where you will be able to let them know how you think the Board and Task Force should align. Here is their contact information:
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2. Eric Wolf, Program and Policy Director for the Workforce Board, has been invited to speak at a congressional briefing in DC on September 20. The National Governors Association (NGA) is coordinating the briefing to discuss the new Perkins reauthorization law. There is great emphasis in the law about aligning secondary and postsecondary Career and Technical Education (CTE) with state and local workforce development systems, including coordinated planning, goal-setting, service integration, and performance accountability. Eric will discuss the role of the Workforce Board leading both Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act (WIOA) and Perkins in the state, and the results over many years of coordination. Eric will join an auspicious panel that will include Deputy Secretary of the US Department of Education, Scott Stump, NGA Executive Director, Scott Pattison, Tami Pyfer, Education Advisor to Gov. Herbert of Utah and U.S. Sen Tim Caine.
3. Nova Gattman, Workforce Board Legislative Director, also serves as staff director for the state's Health Workforce Council. The Council met on September 13 to establish a set of legislative priorities, which will be finalized at the Council's November meeting. The categories of recommendations included support for evidence-informed state health workforce planning; improving access to dental care by increasing the pipeline of dental paraprofessionals; improving physical and behavioral healthcare access in medically underserved regions; establishing a "center" for the development and distribution of resources to advance effective interdisciplinary care across the state; and aligning labor market structures with the state's need for well-qualified care workers. Nova will work with a team of council members and the Council's chair and vice-chair to narrow the scope of these categories and prioritize specific legislative recommendations. Nova coordinates the group's advocacy work with the legislature during legislative session.
4. End of year "close-out" is a major activity for the Board's fiscal staff. The close-out process is made more complex because this very small agency has a variety of federal and state funds, inter-agency contracts, and some private funds. Most of the state's small agencies have only one funding stream. This year was even more difficult because one of our key fiscal analysts, Wendy Tang took a promotional opportunity at DSHS just prior to the start of close-out. Please join me in congratulating our COO, Vicki DeBoer and her staff team, CJ Teague (our financial secret weapon; a real utility player) and Colleen Seto (new to fiscal, but flattened out a really

steep learning curve with so much grace). Together they handled all the complexities of close-out, while keeping all the other fiscal and administrative trains running. Phew!!

5. Gov. Bullock of Montana is this year's Chair of the National Governors Association. The sitting chair leads an initiative of his or her choosing and invites all other states to join in an exploration of the chosen topic. Governor Bullock's 2018-2019 NGA Chair's Initiative, *Good Jobs for All Americans* will map challenges and trends facing state economies and labor markets and address these trends through three major areas of focus:
 - Preparing the workforce of the future for the jobs of tomorrow.
 - Reskilling mid-career workers for success.
 - Empowering the rural workforce.

Gov. Inslee has chosen to actively participate with Gov. Bullock, and has asked his senior policy advisor for workforce, John Aultman, and your executive director to work with the initiative staff teams. You'll recall that Gov. Inslee is the current chair of the NGA's Committee on Education and Workforce.

6. I've periodically reported on the progress of the Health Workforce Sentinel Network, a mechanism to learn in real time how transformations in healthcare delivery are impacting labor force needs. The Health Workforce Council and University of Washington's Center for Health Workforce Studies have gotten national recognition for this model, which is leading to inquiries from other states on possible purchase and/or licensing arrangements. We are also discussing with Health Workforce Council member organizations a potential sponsorship structure to support the continuation and growth of the Sentinel Network. We are currently exploring with the UW technology transfer department and the Attorney General's Office the best methods for structuring any sponsorship or revenue generating activity.
7. Career Bridge, our highly regarded career and education website, received an unexpected but much desired funding package this month, totaling \$189,000. These new resources will pay for a variety of improvements—from making the site mobile friendly to increasing site security to launching a new feature that allows students to create their own digital portfolio for career and education exploration. The funding will also pay to help connect Career Bridge to the national online credential registry, Credential Engine. (I chair the Credential Engine Board, so I'm particularly excited about this enhancement!) But while there are significant upgrades slated for Career Bridge, there is limited time to implement these changes. The funding must be expended by March 31. Staff will be working with a vendor to ensure we make the most of these limited-time resources. A big thank you to John Aultman of the Governor's Office for advocating for Career Bridge to receive these funds, which come from the Governor's WIOA discretionary dollars.